

Attorney Docket # 10961260-3

REPLACEMENT CLAIMS

1. (Amended) A semiconductor isolation structure comprising:

- a substrate, the substrate comprising a surface;
- a first device and a second device formed within the substrate, each device in contact with the substrate;
- an isolation region formed within the substrate between the first device and the second device, the isolation region comprising:
  - a deep region which extends into the substrate, the deep region comprising a deep region cross-sectional area;
  - a shallow region which extends to the surface of the substrate, the shallow region comprising:
    - a protective outer wall adjacent to the substrate;
    - an inner sealing wall located exclusively within the shallow region and adjacent to the protective outer wall; and
    - the shallow region having a shallow region cross-sectional area;
- wherein the deep region cross-sectional area is greater than the shallow region cross-sectional area.

5. (Amended) A semiconductor isolation structure comprising:

- a substrate, the substrate comprising a surface;
- a first device and a second device formed within the substrate, each device in contact with the substrate;
- an isolation region formed within the substrate between the first device and the second device, the isolation region comprising:
  - a deep region which extends into the substrate, the deep region comprising an oxide;
  - a shallow region which extends to the surface of the substrate, the shallow region comprising:
    - a protective outer wall adjacent to the substrate,
    - an inner sealing wall located exclusively within the shallow region and adjacent to the protective outer wall.

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